

# CHRIS & VERA



## A LITTLE BIT ABOUT US ...

### CHRIS

### VERA

#### Our Jobs

Chief Financial Officer

Director of  
Clinical Services

#### Our Education

Bachelor's Degree in  
Accounting

Master's Degree  
in Guidance &  
Counseling

#### Some of Our Favorite Things

Memory with a Child

Memory with a Child

Playing in the snow  
with Isaac

Isaac's first haircut

Hobby

Hobby

Collecting Football  
Cards

Crocheting

TV Show

TV Show

Big Bang Theory

Big Bang Theory

Sports Team

Sports Team

Pittsburgh Steelers

Indianapolis Colts

Children's Book

Children's Book

Curious George

The Cat in the Hat

#### Children

Isaac  
(born in 2014)

We're so glad you're looking at our profile, and we're excited to meet you! We are Chris and Vera. We've been married for 20+ years. After waiting forever for children, we finally were able to begin our family by adopting our son Isaac in 2014. Now, we hope to complete our family with one more child. We have a whole lot of love, stability, and humor in our home, and we want so much to share it with another child.

## WHAT IT MEANS TO BE PARENTS

Being a parent is the most important job we will ever have. It means loving unconditionally, being firm but fair, and most of all it

means teaching our children to be good people.

Our family shares a lot of silly jokes, and we make up silly songs.

Laughter is so much a part of our everyday lives. We work hard to be parents who are stable and consistent, but who also remember to laugh and have fun in life.

We enjoy doing activities as a family (like going to the zoo, going to the pumpkin patch and apple orchard, and taking walks). But, we especially love the calm together moments. Snuggling and reading and telling stories and learning about things together is such fun.



Helping Daddy



At the pumpkin patch

## OUR HOUSE & NEIGHBORHOOD

We live in a rural neighborhood which is just a few miles outside Eau Claire, Wisconsin. For us, it's the best of both worlds. We have deer, fox, and rabbits that visit our yard, yet we're only moments from stores and activities. We saved up for a long time to be able to move into our current home, and we love it. It is very open and airy, with big windows and a lot of light. It looks out onto a little creek behind the back yard. There's a deck around the back of the house, which is nice for everything from cooking out to hanging clothes to dry on the clothesline. We always have a vegetable garden in the yard, as well as flower beds. The back yard is really big. It already has a sandbox, and there is plenty of room to add a swing set.



Our Big Backyard

Our neighborhood is a mix of families with small children, retired couples, and working families. It's really peaceful and private, but everyone takes the time to smile and wave as they pass, and you can always hear children playing.

There are several towns in the area that have county fairs in the summer. It's fun to go see the farm animals and maybe ride on the carnival rides there. Plus, we're able to drive to Minnesota to the Twin Cities every now and then. Going to the zoo or the Mall of America or the museums there are fun weekend activities.



Home Sweet Home

## OUR EXTENDED FAMILIES

Our families, especially our parents, are so excited for us to finally be able to add children to the family. They are all very supportive of our wish to adopt again. They really love Isaac and are excited for him to have a little sister or brother. Vera's mom is older. She is hoping to have a chance to be a grandparent yet again. Grandma especially can't wait to read stories to a little one, count its toes, and generally be silly with it.

Chris' parents have plenty of recent practice with grandparenting, as Chris' brother has three young children. They keep family gatherings interesting ... like throwing pickles at Aunt Vera at a recent baptism celebration. Chris' dad has a really silly sense of humor, but gives the best advice of anyone in the family. Chris' mom enjoys organizing family events and doing active games with the whole family.

Holidays are very important in our family. We spend time with both sides of the family, always, for every holiday. It just wouldn't feel right not to share the event with everyone. Christmas is a special favorite. Vera's family eats a traditional Czechoslovakian meal on Christmas Eve. Chris says that it smells funny, but he's always been a good sport and has always eaten some, to share in the tradition. When everyone on Chris' side of the family gets together for the holiday, it's a tradition to hunt for the pickle ornament on the Christmas tree, in the German tradition.



Vera's family at Isaac's baptism



Isaac and his cousins on Chris' side of the family

## DISCUSSING ADOPTION

We're already very open with Isaac about his adoption, and we plan to continue to be that open with our children, right from the start. We'll talk about how excited we were the day they came home with us, and how nervous (good nervous when we were waiting for them. We want them to know how lucky we feel to have them in our lives, and how grateful we are to their birth mom. We see Isaac's birth parents regularly, and we're very open to having the same type of relationship when we adopt again. Most importantly, we want any child to grow up always knowing that there are two families who love them very, very much ... a birth family and an adoptive family.

# WHAT MADE US WHO WE ARE TODAY

We both came from stable, hard-working families that started us on the road to who we are today. They showed us the value of family, education, and earning our own way in the world.

Chris identifies that he is a strong-willed individual who knew that an education would be important to him. He went into the Army and then the National Guard to be able to pay his own way through college. He believes in working hard and taking pride in what he/we have earned. He also believes in taking time to play.

Vera was born to parents who were a bit older. Their strong sense of values and the close community in which she was raised helped to prepare her well for adulthood. She also has a strong personality, and she believes very much in being honest in all things. Her work as a therapist has helped her to remember to keep her own life in balance.

Over the years we have helped make each other who we are. We love and support each other. We let each other know if something needs to change. We've worked together for many years to try to have children. Having Isaac has helped us to keep learning and growing. Our love (and our patience) knows no limits.



Enjoying a Sunny Day Together



Chris Loves the Pittsburgh Steelers!



Off to Work



At the petting zoo



Vera Playing Piano



Bike Kiss on Our Hawaii Trip



Our "dough boy" Isaac as a baby

## FROM US TO YOU ...

What an amazing person you must be! To consider choosing adoption for your child is one of the most selfless and generous things that a person could possibly do. Not only are you looking out for this child, but you are also giving some incredibly lucky family a chance to have a child that they could not have in another way. We're really hoping that family will be ours ... but no matter who you choose, they will be so very lucky.

We waited a long time to be blessed with children. We've been married for just over 20 years, and were ready for children since the start. We were patient for a long time, and then we tried harder and tried a variety of options to have children. Now it seems silly to us that we did not consider adoption sooner. Our son Isaac came to us through adoption in late 2014. He is a joy, a wonder, and a blessing. He will be a wonderful big brother some day, and our family will be complete when that happens.

We don't know what your situation is, and we can only imagine how difficult this decision must be for you. Please remember that what you're considering is the greatest gift that anyone could give to someone like us. We would never forget you, we would always and forever cherish this child, and we would never take parenthood for granted. We're ready to shape our lives around raising a child, to be there for them, and to be there with them as they learn and grow.

If you do choose us for this important, wonderful role, we want you to know that we'll make sure this child knows about you, how generous you are, and how strong you are for making this decision. We'll share with them whatever information about you that you want them to know. We are very open to having regular visits with you, if that is what you choose. We see Isaac's birth parents regularly and have an open relationship with them. We will, of course, respect whatever you feel is best for you.

While we are picturing what it could be like to finally have our family complete with a second child ... we hope that you can picture this child with us as well. Picture a home where the child is loved and cared for in every moment of every day. Picture a pair of supportive and consistent parents, who will teach this child about life and who will love this child no matter what happens. Picture a big brother, just waiting to play. Picture a home filled with warmth and laughter. Picture this child as a baby in loving arms, as a toddler playing with books and toys, as a child exploring a big backyard and all the joys of nature, as a teen going to sports events and proms with us taking pictures, and even as an adult always having our love and support.

Thank you for taking the time to learn a bit about us, and thank you so much for considering us to parent this child. If you choose us, we will be the very best parents we can be, and we will do everything we can to give this child a wonderful home and a wonderful life.

We hope that your journey and ours are about to meet. But, even if they do not, we wish you the very best in your journey.

Sincerely,

**CHRIS & VERA**  
& Isaac

